

CENTRAL INTELLIGENCE AGENCY

SECRET

INFORMATION REPORT

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COUNTRY	East Germany	REPORT	
SUBJECT	Soviet Military Movements	DATE DISTR.	9 March 1954
DATE OF INFO.		NO. OF PAGES	1
PLACE ACQUIRED		REFERENCE NO.	RD

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REFERENCES

BY CABLE

This is UNEVALUATED Information

THE SOURCE EVALUATIONS IN THIS REPORT ARE DEFINITIVE.
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(FOR KEY SEE REVERSE)

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1. Between 4:30 p.m. and 8 p.m. on 26 February, several columns of motor vehicles, including about 150 trucks, 8 rocket launchers and 8 medium anti-aircraft guns, moved from the direction of Forst Zeitz via Grossasida toward Zeitz-Weissenfels.

A Soviet sergeant was heard to say that the units included troops from Halle. At 1:30 p.m. on 27 February, about 200 trucks, 15 x 152-mm howitzers, 12 x 76.2-mm guns, 8 x 85-mm anti-tank guns and 12 medium anti-aircraft guns drove from the direction of Altenburg via Zeitz towards Weissenfels.¹

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2. Soviet units departed from Prera during the night of 23 February. The former KDF camp was guarded by Soviet sentries wearing red-bordered black shoulderboards. Between 8 p.m. and 10 p.m. on 23 February, Soviet artillery units left Ruegen Island near Gross Bandelvietz. A total of 350 trucks and prime movers towing about 100 guns were observed on the Ruegen dam.

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3. During the night of 23 February, Soviet artillery units passed through Bergen and moved via the Ruegen dam toward Restock. The same troops were observed passing through Ribnitz at 3 a.m. on 24 February. About 120 trucks, 12 armored personnel carriers, 12 x 100-mm anti-tank guns, 12 x 85-mm anti-tank guns, 15 x 76.2-mm guns, 22 x 57-mm anti-tank guns and 15 field kitchens were included in this movement.²

4. On 13 February, seven railroad cars loaded with jet planes were dispatched from Frankfurt/Oder to Gressenhain.

Comment: At the same time, large-scale exercises involving heavy artillery units were held in the area of the 3rd Guards Mechanized Army.

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Comment: It appears that the 4th Anti-Tank Artillery Brigade was moved to the Restock heath for firing practices.

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